

What is claimed is:

1. An electric power steering apparatus comprising:

a steering system;

5        an electric motor for producing steering assist torque corresponding to steering torque applied to said steering system; and

a worm gear mechanism for transmitting the steering assist torque to said steering system,

10        wherein said worm gear mechanism includes a worm operatively connected to said electric motor and a worm wheel operatively connected to said steering system and meshing with said worm, and said worm has a pressure angle greater than a pressure angle of said worm wheel.

15    2. An electric power steering apparatus comprising:

a steering system;

an electric motor for producing steering assist torque corresponding to steering torque applied to said steering system; and

20        a worm gear mechanism for transmitting the steering assist torque to said steering system,

wherein said worm gear mechanism includes a worm operatively connected to said electric motor and a worm wheel operatively connected to said steering system and meshing with said worm, and said worm is a single-thread worm.

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3. An electric power steering apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein said worm is made of metal while said worm wheel is made of resin, and wherein said worm wheel has a tooth thickness greater

than a tooth height.

4. An electric power steering apparatus as claimed in claim 2  
wherein said worm has a pressure angle greater than a pressure  
5 angle of said worm wheel.